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FM AMEMBASSY TASHKENT
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9725
INFO RUCNCIS/CIS COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUEHC/DEPT OF AGRICULTURE WASHDC PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L TASHKENT 000612

SIPDIS

STATE FOR EEB/TPP/ABT FOR AMY WINTON, EEB/TPP FOR MIKAEL
LURIE, EEB/IFD/ODF FOR MARGO SIEMER

E.O. 12958: DECL: 05/30/2018
TAGS: [ETRD](#) [EAGR](#) [ECON](#) [TBIO](#) [UZ](#)
SUBJECT: UZBEKISTAN: FOOD STAPLE EXPORTS -- MAYBE YES,
MAYBE NO?

REF: A. STATE 53353
[1](#)B. TASHKENT 591

Classified By: Poloff Robert McCutcheon for reasons 1.4 (b, d).

[1](#)1. (SBU) We delivered food staple export points and
aide-memoire (Ref A) on May 30 to the MFA's Amercas Desk
Chief Ismat Fayzullaev, who had no immediate response.
Fayzullaev promised to refer the issue to relevant agencies
in the Uzbek Government.

[1](#)2. (C) Although officially Uzbekistan has no export controls
on food staple exports, there are rumors that unofficial
controls exist. After recent consultations in Tashkent (Ref
B), the International Monetary Fund told us it was unable to
determine whether Uzbek authorities have instituted export
controls. Some authorities say controls have been put in
place, whereas others contradict this. When we asked him
about these rumors, Fayzullaev had no response.

[1](#)3. (C) World Bank (WB) country director for Uzbekistan Loup
Brefort also is concerned about rumors of controls on food
exports. Brefort told us the World Bank is in full agreement
with our message to the Uzbek Government, and he said he
would welcome an opportunity to deliver that message jointly
at a higher level when an opportunity arrises. He suggested
such an opportunity may present itself when the WB presents
its 2008-2011 Country Assistance Plan for Uzbekistan.
Brefort said this should happen in late June or July, and he
asked that we keep him apprised of any reaction we receive
from the MFA.
NORLAND